

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to entry of this Amendment, the application included claims 1-8, 13-15 and 17-20. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Hence, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1-8, 13-15 and 17-20 stand pending for examination.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for allowance of claims 13-15 and 17-20.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,219,994 to Taniguchi ("Taniguchi") in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,801,833 to Pintsov et al. ("Pintsov").

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to positively recite the claim elements not given patentable weight. Because similar elements were examined and determined to have been allowable with respect to the method claims, the Applicants believe the system claims are now allowable. Hence, claims 1-8 are believed to be allowable, at least for the foregoing reasons.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

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Amendment dated August 6, 2007
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 3653

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

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